

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCCT-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 SAM-01

SS-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 L-03 H-03 SY-04 /126 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:BCROGERS:CRJ

APPROVED BY AF/E:RSBARRETT

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R 122354Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINS CASC ET

SUBJECT: TENNECO CAPTIVES

1. FOLLOWING AP REPORT IS PASSED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

QTE THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT SAID TODAY IT HAS AGREED TO FREE ONE KIDNAPPED TECHNICIAN OF THE TENNECO OIL COMPANY IF THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT RELEASES FIVE GUERRILLA PRISONERS.

QTE IT SAID THE AGREEMENT CLIMAXED THE FIRST STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FATE OF FIVE TENNECO OILMEN KIDNAPPED IN ETHIOPIA MARCH 26.

QTE THE GROUP DID NOT IDENTIFY THE CAPTIVE IT MIGHT RELEASE BUT SAID THE FIVE OILMEN--THREE AMERICANS AND TWO CANADIANS--WERE ALL QTE ALIVE, WELL FED AND WELL-TREATED UNQTE.

QTE THE STATEMENT SAID THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE CONDUCTED BY A TENNECO DELEGATION WITH GUERRILLA REPRESENTATIVES BUT
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DID NOT SAY WHERE OR HOW LONG THE TALKS LASTED.

QTE THE 10-YEAR-OLD GUERRILLA REBELLION IS AIMED AT GAIN-
ING INDEPENDENCE FOR ERITREA, ETHIOPIA'S NORTHERNMOST PRO-
VINCE AND ITS ONLY OUTLET TO THE RED SEA.

QTE THE OILMEN WERE FLYING BY HELICOPTER TO AN AREA SOUTH
OF THE ERITREAN CAPITAL OF ASMARA WHEN THEY WERE SEIZED BY
THE REBELS 14 WEEKS AGO. TENNECO, OF HOUSTON, TEX., IS
EXPLORING FOR OIL IN THE AREA. END QTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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